Bringing ports under ESMA

2998. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that disruption in operation by unions in major ports affect adversely on the country's economic development;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to declare such disruptions illegal and bring the ports under ESMA; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) to (c) Central Essential Services Maintenance Act 1981, came into force on 23rd September 1981. The life of the original Act was extended up to 1990. Further extension was examined in consultation with the State Governments and the Central Ministries and Departments and it was decided not to extend the term of the Act further and the Act lapsed in September 1990. Many of the States are having their own ESM Acts which *inter alia* confer the powers upon the State Governments to declare any service as essential service.

Service road on National Highway No. 8

2999. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no service road has been provided at village Balwada in Nasari district and village Sarodhi in Valsad district of Gujarat on National Highway No. 8; and

(b) if so, whether Government would consider to provide service road to the village people on priority basis to avoid accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for six-laning of the said stretch is in progress. Service road at villages Balwada and Sarodhi may be provided based on the outcome of the DPR.

Re-construction of Temple Complex at Katas Raj

3000. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Pakistan have agreed to entrust the work for the reconstruction of Temple Complex at Katasraj in that country to Archaeological Survey of India; and

(b) the financial assistance proposed to be given by the Government of Pakistan and India and international agencies, if any, for the re-construction of the Complex?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Pakistan had requested for experts from the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) in May, 2005 to advise it on restoration of Katasraj Temple Complex. An ASI expert visited the Katasraj Temple Complex from 29th August to 2nd September, 2005 and submitted a report which was handed over to the Government of Pakistan in January, 2006. The restoration of the Temple Complex is being carried out by authorities in Pakistan. India has offered to provide further technical assistance, if required.

Construction of by-pass on National Highway No. 7

†3001. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether construction of by-pass for Sivani city is proposed on National Highway No. 7; and

(b) if so, the action taken so far for its construction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A by-pass at Sivani city (Seon) on NH-7 in Madhya Pradesh is included in the project for four laning from km. 597 to km. 653 of NH-7 as part of North-South Corridor. Tenders for this project on BOT Annuity basis have already been invited but the award of work is yet to be finalized. The land acquisition work is in progress.

Port development plan

3002. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated a 20 year plan to develop all major ports in the country with Rotterdam Port and other international port

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.